

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3-6, and add new claim 7, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were, in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the multi-step manufacture of contactless tickets or cards including a chip ~~(24)~~ connected to an antenna ~~(10)~~ on a paper support, said method ~~consisting in~~ comprising printing in series, using screen printing ink, the antennas on said paper support strip, in fixing a chip on each ticket by connecting the bonding pads of the chip to the bonding pads of the antenna ~~(14, 16)~~ and in covering said paper strip comprising the screen-printed antennas and the corresponding chips with an adhesive paper strip, each of the steps being followed by the winding of said paper support strip before moving onto the next step;

~~said method being characterised in that it~~ wherein said method includes a step ~~consisting in~~ comprising covering each of said screen-printed antennas with a protective layer ~~(12)~~, applied by printing, ~~and particularly screen printing,~~ said protective layer being provided for preventing the screen printing ink from being

transferred onto the back of the paper support strip during the successive windings thereof after each step.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said protective layer is a dielectric layer.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said dielectric layer is printed using a screen printing ink during ~~the step consisting in~~ screen printing the antenna onto the paper support.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 3, wherein ~~the a part (18) of said dielectric layer (12) for receiving~~ adapted to receive a conductive strip connecting the end of the screen-printed antenna ~~(10)~~ to a bonding pad of the chip ~~(24)~~ is greater than the rest of said dielectric layer.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said part ~~(18)~~ of the dielectric layer ~~(12) for receiving~~ adapted to receive said conductive strip is made up of 100% dielectric, whereas the rest of said dielectric layer is made up of 30% dielectric.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 5, wherein said print screen which is used to produce said dielectric layer ~~(12)~~ comprises a full-tone screen corresponding to said part ~~(18)~~ ~~for receiving~~ adapted to receive said conductive strip, whereas the rest of said dielectric layer is half-tone printed.

7. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said protective layer is applied by screen printing to said antenna.